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REPORT
on the
HEALTH
of
DENTON
1955



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Urban District of Denton



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1955

U R B A N D I S T R I C T O F D E N T O N

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor G.R. Harris

Members:

Councillor	F. Worthington, O.B.E., J.P., D.L.
"	R.E. Mather
"	A. Hewitt
"	Mrs. E.W. Brown
"	J. Townsend
"	H. Hallows
"	Mrs. M. Moores, C.C., J.P.
"	F. Booth
"	W.N. Hill
"	P. Armstrong

Public Health Department,
16, Victoria Street,
DENTON.

TO The Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your consideration my report on the health
of the district and work of the department for 1955.

In reviewing the statistics it is gratifying to note
that the infantile mortality rate of 3 per 1,000 related live
births was the lowest ever recorded. The relative provisional
rate for England and Wales was 24.9.

The adjusted birth rate was 13.5 per 1,000 of the
population and the death rate was 12.3. The rates for
England and Wales as a whole were 15.0 and 11.7 respectively.

The estimated mid-year population was 25,790 an
increase of 160 over the previous year. The natural increase
was 51.

There was one maternal death during the year.

With the exception of tuberculosis and pneumonia, there
were no deaths from notifiable infectious disease.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HAZEL I. ASHFORD.

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health:

HAZEL I. ASHFORD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector.
Cleansing Superintendent and Petroleum Officer:

RONALD JAMES STANYARD

B.A., (Admin).

Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.

Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.

Smoke Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.

Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

NORMAN NAYLOR MORRIS

Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.

Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.

Certificate and Diploma. R.I.P.H. and H.

Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

JOHN BENJAMIN WILLIAMS

Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B.

Meat and Food Inspectors' Cert. R.S.I.

Clerks:

WILLIAM LESLIE KING

EDNA MAY LLOYD

SOCIAL CONDITIONS:

The Urban District of Denton lies in the extreme South East corner of Lancashire, 330ft. above sea level. The district is well planned and has four main highways, radiating from the centre almost due North, South, East and West.

Houses in the district are mainly of the four and six roomed type and the condition and general soundness on the whole is fair. Rising dampness and leaking roofs are the chief prevailing forms of defects. Approximately one half of the houses are built in terraces while the other half are of the semi-detached or detached type with gardens front and rear and built during the past quarter century.

The district is principally industrial and residents are mainly employed in the manufacture of hats and processes incidental thereto. There are also engineering, accumulator, plastic and rubber works together with printing and other light industries.

There is no reason to suspect that any particular occupation in the district has contributed to ill-health amongst employees.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area (in acres) ....	....	....	2592.25
Population-Census 1951 ....	....	....	25,612
Mid 1955 as supplied by Registrar General			25,790
Number of Houses - Census 1951			8,385
At the end of 1955 ....	....	....	9,198
Rateable value ....	....	....	£148,433
Sum represented by a Penny Rate			£581

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

			M	F	Total
LIVE BIRTHS:	Legitimate	....	... 173	164	337
	Illegitimate	....	... <u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>
			<u>178</u>	<u>169</u>	<u>347</u>

Birth Rate per 1,000
estimated home popu-
lation mid 1955 :-

Crude	....	....	13.5
Adjusted	...	....	14.4
England and Wales...	....	....	15.0

STILLBIRTHS:	Legitimate	....	.... 6	7	13
	Illegitimate	....	.... 1	=	<u>1</u>
			7	7	<u>14</u>

Rate per 1,000 total
(live and still)births 39

DEATHS:			... 161	155	316
---------	------	------	---------	-----	-----

Death rate per 1,000
estimated home popu-
lation mid 1955 :-

Crude	....	....	12.3
Adjusted	....	....	13.5
England and Wales...	....	....	11.7

MATERNAL MORTALITY:

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	....	1
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births	2.77	

Death rate of infants under one year of age :-

All infants per 1,000 live births	....	....	3
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.			3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.			Nil

Neo-Natal Mortality :-

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	....	....	1
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	....	....	3

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths	
	No. Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. Regis- tered.	Rate per 1,000 total births.
YEAR 1955	347	+13.5	316	+12.3	14	39
" 1954	323	12.6	277	10.8	9	27
" 1953	379	14.9	280	11.0	14	36
" 1952	352	13.8	304	11.9	14	38
" 1951	354	13.9	334	13.1	12	33
" 1950	341	13.3	331	12.9	19	53
Avg. 5 years. 1950-1954	-	13.7	-	12.0	-	37

+ Adjusted.

(Live Birth-rate comparability factor 1.07) = 14.4 per 1,000

(Death-rate comparability factor 1.10) = 13.5 per 1,000

FOR THE YEARS 1950-1955

Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
		Total		Neo-natal	
No. of deaths registered.	Rate per 1,000 total births.	No. of deaths registered.	Rate per 1,000 live births.	No. of deaths registered.	Rate per 1,000 live births.
1	2.77	1	3	1	3
Nil	Nil	6	19	5	15
1	3.54	11	21	7	18
Nil	Nil	13	37	11	31
Nil	Nil	15	42	11	31
Nil	Nil	8	23	4	12
	.51		28		21

DEATHS

The following table shows the chief causes of Death during the year.

No.	Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.
1.	Tuberculosis respiratory	4	1
2.	" other	-	1
3.	Syphilitic Disease	1	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1
10.	Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	3	3
11.	Malignant Neoplasm (Lung, Bronchus).	10	2
12.	Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	-	10
13.	Malignant Neoplasm (Uterus)	-	4
14.	Malignant Neoplasm (Other Sites)....	14	7
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	1
16.	Diabetes....	-	2
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ..	21	26
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	24	15
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	3
20.	Other Heart Disease	37	39
21.	Other Circulatory Diseases ..	6	6
22.	Influenza	1	-
23.	Pneumonia	6	3
24.	Bronchitis	7	8
25.	Other Diseases of the Respiratory System ...	-	2
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	-
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	-	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostrate	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	1
31.	Congenital Malformations	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	10
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
34.	All Other Accidents	7	6
35.	Suicide	1	2
36.	Homicide and other Operations of War	-	-
All Causes		<u>161</u>	<u>155</u>

INFANT MORTALITY 1955

Causes of Death of Infants under one year of age.

	Under											Total under 1 year.	
	1 mth.	1 mth.	2 mth.	3 mths.	4 mths.	5 mths.	6 mths.	7 mths.	8 mths.	9 mths.	10 mths.		11 mths.
Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

POPULATION, BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES TO 1955

Year	Population	No. of Births	Birth Rate	No. of Deaths	Death Rate	No. of Deaths	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births.
1902		442	27.7	242	15.9	67	158
1903	Census	387	24.5	226	14.7	70	180
1904	1901	388	25.0	246	15.2	74	190
1905	14,934	336	21.5	230	14.7	63	187
1906		399	25.4	259	16.5	54	135
1907	15,811	352	22.2	215	13.5	34	96
1908	15,983	392	24.2	215	13.4	41	104
1909	16,122	391	24.5	244	15.1	51	130
1910	16,319	439	26.9	195	11.9	43	97
1911	16,931	385	22.7	256	15.1	57	148
1912	17,049	364	21.3	248	14.5	54	148
1913	17,189	359	20.8	252	14.6	52	144
1914	17,344	366	21.1	225	12.9	44	120
1915	17,481	328	18.7	255	14.8	48	146
1916	17,554	295	16.2	244	14.5	32	108
1917	17,608	290	16.5	216	13.7	20	68
1918	17,649	251	14.4	254	16.4	17	67
1919	17,642	293	16.4	205	11.9	24	81
1920	17,786	394	22.0	204	11.4	36	91
1921	18,020	351	19.4	217	12.0	34	96
1922	17,950	281	15.6	220	12.2	27	96
1923	17,970	311	17.3	216	12.0	25	80
1924	17,900	263	14.6	212	11.8	30	114
1925	17,770	289	16.2	218	12.2	27	93
1926	17,150	232	13.5	240	13.9	24	103
1927	17,010	212	12.4	195	11.4	19	89
1928	17,600	226	12.8	208	11.8	12	53
1929	17,750	217	12.2	300	16.9	21	96
1930	17,750	212	11.9	220	12.3	11	51
1931	17,580	203	11.5	221	12.5	14	68
1932	17,620	193	10.9	244	13.8	14	72
1933	17,870	199	11.1	231	12.9	16	80
1934	18,270	192	10.5	205	11.2	13	67
1935	18,770	277	14.7	228	12.1	17	61
1936	19,670	253	12.8	273	13.8	22	86
1937	21,090	351	16.6	264	12.5	20	56
1938	21,700	345	15.8	296	13.6	15	43
1939	22,830	353	15.5	290	12.7	17	47
1940	23,050	407	17.6	338	14.6	27	66
1941	22,970	349	15.1	313	13.6	12	33
1942	22,590	433	18.7	290	12.8	18	42
1943	22,400	481	21.4	289	12.9	28	58
1944	22,560	457	20.2	277	12.3	19	42
1945	22,680	421	18.5	291	12.8	18	42
1946	24,030	462	19.2	293	12.1	19	41
1947	24,770	572	23.0	296	11.9	24	41
1948	25,380	443	17.4	265	10.4	16	36
1949	25,270	404	16.0	279	11.0	13	32
1950	25,710	431	13.3	331	12.9	8	23
1951	25,550	354	13.9	334	13.1	15	42
1952	25,600	352	13.8	304	11.9	13	37
1953	25,500	379	14.9	280	11.0	11	21
1954	25,630	323	12.6	277	10.8	6	19
1955	25,790	347	13.5	316	12.3	1	3

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

All pathological and bacteriological work was carried out by the Regional Public Health Laboratory Service under the direction of Dr. Parker at Monsall Hospital, Manchester. In several instances the expert advice of Dr. Parker and his staff at the Laboratory has been most helpful when tracing possible sources of infection.

HOSPITALS.

There are no hospitals in the district but the Manchester Regional Hospital Board provides facilities for residents as follows :-

- (a) General Medical and Surgical Patients are treated in or at hospitals in the neighbouring districts of Ashton-u-Lyne, Manchester and Stockport.
- (b) Tuberculosis - Visitation at home, dispensary and sanatorium treatment is provided for all known cases of Tuberculosis.
- (c) Maternity - Cases are admitted to the Lake Hospital, Ashton-u-Lyne and St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES

The Lancashire County Council as the Local Health Authority for the area provides the following services through the medium of Health Division No. 17 of which Denton is a constituent district :-

1. Maternity and Child Welfare.
2. School Medical Services.
3. Midwifery.
4. Health Visiting.
5. Home Nursing.
6. Vaccination and Immunisation.
7. Ambulance Services.
8. Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care
9. Domestic Help.
10. Mental Health.
11. Health Education and Propaganda.
12. Care of the Aged.

The Medical Officer locally responsible for the above Divisional Health Service is :-

DR. ALAN S. SIMPSON,
Divisional Medical Officer,
Divisional Health Offices,
St. Michael's Square,
Ashton-u-Lyne.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES

Table I on page 17 shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified and mortality during 1955, Table II, the number of cases removed to hospital, and Table III, the trend of infectious disease during the past 25 years. From the latter table it will be observed that the total number of cases of infectious disease notified was the lowest since 1940, the incidence of all diseases, with the exception of tuberculosis, being well below the average of preceding years.

DIPHTHERIA:

For the sixth successive year no case of diphtheria was notified. Immunisation against diphtheria is a function of the Divisional Health Service.

FOOD POISONING:

On 25th September 1955, a coach party of 35 ladies visited Blackpool and on the return journey 3 ladies complained of abdominal pains and diarrhoea but none deemed it necessary to visit a doctor. The majority had recovered when the department was advised on the 27th September. It was only possible to obtain faeces specimens from 6 of the party, staphylococcus aureus were isolated from 3 of the specimens and heat resistant anaerobes in all 6. A subsequent report revealed that the heat resistant anaerobes were of colonial appearance, non-haemolytic with a mixture of seriological types, the majority being type 10.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA:

One case of puerperal pyrexia was notified and recovered after treatment in hospital.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS:

Two cases of suspected poliomyelitis were removed to hospital but were not confirmed.

DISINFECTION.

Formaldehyde spray and formalin vapour generators are used for the disinfection of infected premises. A steam disinfecter situate at Alpha Tip is used for the disinfection of bedding, articles of clothing etc., when required. 16 houses were disinfected during the year.

VACCINE, ETC.

Anti-toxin, vaccines and pathological outfits were available at the Public Health Department.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Swabs for Diphtheria	4
Faeces for Typhoid, Salmonella or Dysentery Groups	39
Urine	1
Sputum	1

T A B L E I

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING 1955

	Total cases	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 and over	Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	23	-	1	2	18	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Measles	200	4	68	51	74	3	-	-	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	20	-	4	10	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	27	-	-	-	2	-	2	4	13	6	9	3
Febrile Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	3	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
TOTAL	275	4	74	63	102	5	3	4	14	6	9	10

T A B L E II

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL

	Monsall Hospital, Manchester.	Hyde Hospital.	Westhume Hospital, Oldham.	Preston Isolation Hospital.	Cherry Tree Hospital, Stockport.	TOTAL
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	2	1	-	-	-	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	-	1	2
Measles	1	-	-	1	-	2
Septic Abortion	1	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	1
Observation	3	-	1	-	-	4
TOTAL	9	3	1	1	1	15

T A B L E I I I .

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	63	33	35	48	33	70	57	108	68	23
Diphtheria	20	6	15	45	34	17	97	34	17	6
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	471
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	97
Acute Pneumonia	32	41	30	11	15	24	16	19	36	56
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	3	2	1	1	-	5	1	2
Meningococcal Infection	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	5
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	31	28	-	-	5	-	-	8	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
Erysipelas	11	10	14	13	8	6	12	13	4	4
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis:										
Pulmonary	14	11	17	11	19	14	28	18	21	20
Non-Pulmonary	11	12	4	7	13	12	14	10	6	4
Total	169	147	119	138	129	144	224	219	156	690

T A B L E I I I

DURING THE PAST 25 YEARS.

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
59	123	58	51	64	28	34	29	119	103	57	69	72	24	23
26	10	5	2	1	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
276	273	87	202	405	164	378	138	236	233	395	100	443	353	200
51	29	70	43	12	127	27	102	80	168	74	113	147	38	20
36	30	26	30	18	28	28	9	17	26	36	11	16	41	27
2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1
9	3	2	-	2	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	1	2	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	3	-	1	2	-	-
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	20	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	194	3
1	1	1	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
2	7	8	11	15	9	4	4	5	7	3	4	4	4	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	27	4	3	-	2	-
24	24	27	18	20	26	15	23	15	18	27	24	23	16	18
6	7	14	8	6	5	11	3	2	4	6	4	5	3	4
497	511	300	367	563	393	504	312	482	589	606	332	716	677	297

TUBERCULOSIS

Adjustments to the register of tuberculosis persons were made as shown in Table IV on page 23, Table V the age grouping and separation of sexes of new cases and deaths, and Table VI the incidence and mortality of tuberculosis during the past 10 years.

All houses were disinfected after removal of a tubercular person and bedding and personal belongings subjected to steam disinfection when desired. Structural defects in houses, particularly regarding ventilation were given immediate attention and any case known to be sharing a bedroom was given priority in rehousing. 5 such cases were rehoused during the year.

No action was required under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

T A B L E IV

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE REGISTER OF TUBERCULOSIS PERSONS DURING 1955

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Number of cases on register at 31st December 1954 ...	75	64	139	13	12	25
Number of primary notifications	14	4	18	1	3	4
Number of cases transferred in	4	6	10	2	-	2
Number of cases ascertained otherwise than by notification..	1	-	1	-	1	1
	19	10	29	3	4	7
Number of recovered or quiescent cases removed from register ..	1	2	3	1	1	2
Number of transfers out	9	5	14	-	-	-
Number of deaths	4	1	5	1	1	2
Number of cases removed from register - diagnosis not confirmed ...	-	1	1	-	-	-
	14	9	23	2	2	4
Number of cases on register at 31st December 1955	80	65	145	14	14	28

T A B L E V

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1955

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
10-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
15-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
20-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1
55-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
75 and upwards	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals	14	4	1	3	4	1	-	1
	18		4		5		1	
Case Rate per 1,000	<u>0.70</u> <u>0.15</u>		Death Rate per 1,000		<u>0.19</u> <u>0.04</u>		0.23	
	0.85							

T A B L E VI

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

1946 - 1955

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1946	15	11	4	1	4	1	-	2
1947	8	7	3	8	5	2	-	1
1948	13	10	1	2	5	5	1	1
1949	9	6	-	2	4	2	1	1
1950	10	11	2	2	6	3	-	1
1951	16	11	2	4	4	4	1	1
1952	16	8	1	3	4	1	1	-
1953	16	7	3	2	1	-	1	-
1954	15	9	3	-	4	-	-	-
1955	14	4	1	3	4	1	-	1

CANCER

56 deaths were recorded from Cancer giving a death rate of 2.17 per thousand of the population. Table VII shows the deaths from Cancer during 1955 according to site and age at death.

TABLE VII

DEATHS FROM CANCER

According to Site and Sex

1954 and 1955

SITES	Number of Registered Deaths			
	1954		1955	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Stomach	3	6	3	3
Lung and Bronchus	6	-	10	2
Breast	-	4	-	10
Uterus	-	2	-	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	15	10	14	7
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	2	-	2	1
Totals	26	22	29	27

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

Section 47 - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary during the year.

Public Health Department,
16, Victoria Street,
DENTON.

To The Chairman and Members of
the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the environmental health and public cleansing services for 1955.

In order to comply with the requirements of Section I of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, a housing survey was completed in the early part of the year. This survey showed that only 93 unfit houses required to be cleared within the next 5 years - adequate testimony to the Council's progressive policy of clearance during the past. Apart from the dismissal of the Council's Appeal to the Queen's Bench Division against a decision of the Quarter Sessions, upholding an Appeal against a notice served under Section 56 of the Public Health Act 1936, and one other case where a Nuisance Order had to be obtained, the number of repairs carried out by owners after service of notice was most satisfactory, if rather surprising, in view of the almost complete failure of the provisions of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 relating to Certificates of Disrepair. Unfortunately the decision of the Queen's Bench Division means it is now only possible to get house paths repaired where the owner is co-operative.

With the exception of the usual difficulties caused by sickness and inclement weather during January and February the public cleansing service continued satisfactorily. The calldozer brought into service on refuse disposal in July soon proved its value. Towards the end of the year, it became increasingly obvious that the replacement of two of the three side loading refuse collectors, by larger vehicles to cope with the increasing volume of refuse, would be necessary.

In conclusion I would thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and help, and the staff of the department for their work during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD J. STANYARD.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY:

Upland surface water is gathered in reservoirs belonging to Manchester Corporation and supplied through their mains to all parts of the district. The supply is constant and of fairly good quality, but owing to the water not being filtered the amount of suspended solids has given rise to some concern. Representations have been made to Manchester Corporation and there has been a little improvement. The partial completion of the Haweswater Aqueduct has ensured a plentiful supply of water.

Samples for analysis were submitted with the following results :-

	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Bacteriological	28	-

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:

The drainage of the district is on the partially separate system. The sewage from one area is collected at a pumping station and, after separation of the storm water, is pumped to the head of a gravitational sewer. The whole of the sewage from the district is delivered ultimately to the Sewage Disposal Works by way of two main outfall sewers 24" and 18" diameter respectively. The process of treatment at the sewage works consists of primary clarification of the sewage, whereby solids are removed by sedimentation and chemical precipitation, followed by treatment on percolating filters in which the clarified tank effluent is rendered non-putrescible by bio-chemical oxidation. The deposited sludge, which is screened mechanically, gravitates to the pump house and is pumped into digestive tanks, the digested sludge being ultimately dried on adjoining drying beds and disposed of chiefly for the manufacture of artificial fertiliser.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:

Closet accommodation at the end of year was as follows :-

Pail Closets	....	....	14
Fresh Water Closets	....	....	10,000

REFUSE COLLECTION:

Four vehicles with trailers are employed in the collection of household refuse, salvage, trade waste etc. 9,212 dustbins and 14 pail closets were in use at the end of the year, and as far as possible a weekly collection is maintained. The following table shows details of loads collected :-

Household Refuse	4,101	Loads
Trade Waste	296	"
Salvage	477	"
Private Works	32	"
Tip Covering Material	39	"

Street cleansing in the district is under the direction of the Engineer and Surveyor.

REFUSE DISPOSAL:

Refuse disposal is carried out by controlled tipping on the main site at Alpha Tip. This site has been in use since 1935. The purchase of a calldozer during the year was necessitated by the increasing volume of refuse being handled. With this machine one tip attendant can easily deal with all refuse deposited on the tip; with the added advantages of quicker sealing, better consolidation and improved maintenance of the tip roads. Plates for the vehicles to run on when tipping are no longer needed with a consequent quicker turn round and less chance of damage. The second tip attendant is now employed full time on the recovery of salvage.

SALVAGE:

The recovery of waste paper, textiles and metals continued apace during the year and the wisdom of the Council's decision to instal modern paper baling equipment and other aids was shown by the increase in income of £1,370 over the previous year.

DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE

The following is a detailed list of the department's revenue during the year. For comparative purposes the figures for the preceding year are also given.

	Year ended 31st March 1955		Year ended 31st March 1956	
	T. c. q.	£. s. d.	T. c. q.	£. s. d.
REFUSE COLLECTION:				
Trade Refuse Charges		3. 18. 0.		4. 1. 0.
REFUSE DISPOSAL:				
Trade Refuse Charges		60. 0. 0.		76. 15. 0.
SALVAGE:				
Baled Paper	278. 10. 0.	2275. 6. 1.	391. 4. 3.	3442. 0. 5.
Textiles	4. 10. 0.	60. 2. 3.	12. 8. 1.	137. 13. 7.
Metals	17. 10. 0.	89. 12. 2.	35. 14. 0.	214. 16. 10.
Rubber	0. 5. 1.	1. 6. 3.	0. 8. 0.	2. 0. 0.
MECHANICAL TRANSPORT:				
Transport Charges		255. 4. 1.		169. 14. 6.
PUBLIC LAVATORIES:				
Miscellaneous Receipts		361. 17. 11.		383. 9. 10.
MISCELLANEOUS:				
Sale of Dustbins		37. 11. 3.		21. 11. 0.
Sale of Disinfectant		16. 0. 9.		14. 13. 3.
Lethal Chamber Receipts		8. 17. 6.		8. 1. 0.
		£3169. 16. 3.		£24474. 16. 5.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Drainage	....	....	....	....	....	568
Factories and Workshops		....	....	....	....	92
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act 1952				....	....	15
Interviews with Agents, Owners etc., of property						507
Petrol Installations	..	....	....	....	....	12
Pet Animals Act	....	....	....	....	....	2
Public Conveniences	...	....	....	....	....	155
Rats & Mice	....	....	....	....	....	300
Refuse Collection	....	....	....	....	....	850
Refuse Disposal	....	....	....	....	....	758
Salvage	....	....	....	....	....	819
School Yards and Lavatories	...	....	....	....	....	89
Smoke Observations	....	....	....	....	....	29
Stables and Piggeries	.	....	....	....	....	25
Shops Act	....	....	....	....	....	48
Tents, Caravans and Sheds	....	....	....	....	....	11
Water Supply	....	....	....	....	....	13

RESULT OF ACTION IN REGARD TO DEFECTS OR NUISANCES:

Ceilings repaired....	....	....	29
Chimney stacks pointed or repaired..	....	....	19
Damp proof courses repaired.	....	....	10
Doors repaired	....	....	12
Drains released or repaired.	....	....	60
Dustbins renewed ...	....	....	796
Eavesgutters repaired	....	....	56
Floors repaired ...	....	....	32
Fireplace & kitchen ranges repaired.	....	....	16
Rain water pipes repaired...	....	....	18
Roofs repaired	....	....	106
Sink & sink waste pipes repaired....	....	....	13
Skirting boards repaired....	....	....	6
Staircases repaired.	....	....	6
Walls pointed .....	....	....	67
Walls replastered ..	....	....	46
Wash Boilers repaired	....	....	1
W.C. Cisterns repaired	....	....	5
W.C. Pedestals renewed	....	....	10
Window frames & sash cords repaired.	....	....	82
Water supply pipes repaired	....	....	11
Yard walls and surfaces repaired....	....	....	5
Miscellaneous repairs	....	....	25

NOTICES:

		<u>Served</u>
	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Statutory</u>
Public Health Act 1936	 316	 107
Housing Act 1936.....	7	 12

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS:

3 licences were issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936. 2 of the licences were granted to key workmen to use caravans temporarily for residential purposes during the construction of a new gas works in the district. One licence was in respect of a caravan used for weekend camping.

SMOKE ABATEMENT:

29 smoke observations were made during the year. No formal action under the Public Health Act 1936 was necessary, but as a result of pressure from the department the Management of three factories requested the services of the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service whose engineers visited and made recommendations to eliminate smoke and produce greater efficiency.

The Council contribute to a scheme sponsored by the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee for the investigation of atmospheric pollution. Under the foregoing scheme two sulphur dioxide recorders were established in the area during 1951, one at the Town Hall and the other at the Sewage Disposal Works and the results for 1955 are shown overleaf.

A byelaw as to smoke abatement in pursuance of Section 104 of the Public Health Act 1936 was made by the Council on 3rd October 1955. The byelaw was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 28th December 1955, and comes into force on the 1st February 1956.

SCHOOLS:

Sanitary conditions are satisfactory at all schools in the district apart from the yards at Haughton Green Council School and St. Mary's R.C. School, which are unpaved and in bad condition.

RODENT CONTROL:

One full time rodent operator is employed. Two complete treatments of the sewers in the district were carried out during the year. Infestation of premises by rats and mice and the resultant measures of control are shown in the Table on page 35.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Estimate of Sulphur by Lead Peroxide Method

SITE	Results in mgm. Sulphur Trioxide per 100 sq.cms. exposed surface per day.									
	Aprl.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Summer			Nov. Dec.
							Mean.	Oct.	Nov.	
Town Hall Sewage Works	2.20	1.88	1.18	0.94	0.81	1.54	1.43	2.23	2.96	2.44
	1.58	1.29	0.85	0.85	0.65	0.93	1.03	1.36	1.67	2.05

SITE	M E A N S									
	Winter			Summer			Year			
	November - March			May - September			April - March			
	1951/2	1952/3	1953/4	1954/5	1952	1953	1954	1952/3	1953/4	1954/5
Town Hall Sewage Works	2.23	2.19	2.58	2.63	1.05	1.33	1.34	1.52	1.96	1.99
	1.76	1.62	2.00	1.76	0.77	0.97	0.97	1.13	1.47	1.37

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1942

Type of Property

	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>				Agri- cultural
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council houses)	All other (including business premises)	Total of columns (1)(2)&(3)	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district	17	8,621	1,163	9,801	20
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :- (a) Notification (b) Survey under the Act (c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	15 2 -	373 89 27	45 9 -	433 100 27	1 3 1
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	76	1415	135	1626	7
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec.2) which were found to be infested by :- (a) Rats - Major Minor (b) Mice - Major Minor	- 7 - 1	- 226 - 177	1 14 1 15	1 247 1 193	. - 1 - -
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec.4) treated by the L.A.	8	403	27	438	1
6. Total treatments carried out - including re-treatment	19	452	29	500	1

FACTORY ACT, 1937INSPECTION.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices
Factories without mechanical power	4	1	-
Factories with mechanical power	139	91	7
Total	143	92	7

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness	2	3	3
Sanitary Conveniences:-			
Insufficient	-	1	-
Defective	2	5	7
Other Offences against the Act	1	3	2
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	1
Total	6	13	13

OUTWORK.

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec. 110(I)(C)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	62

H O U S I N G

Number of new houses erected during the year :-	<u>Houses.</u>	<u>Flats.</u>
(i) By the local authority	51	Nil
(ii) By other local authorities	Nil	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	167	Nil

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :-

(1)(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2030
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	3535
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:	
(a) No. found during year	93
(b) No. at end of year	82
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.	371

2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):-

(1) No. of dwelling houses demolished during year:	
(a) Unfit houses	3
(b) Other houses	-
(2) No. of persons displaced	10

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas :-

	<u>Houses</u>	No of <u>Persons</u> <u>Displaced</u>
(I) Houses demolished or closed during year:		
(a) Housing Act 1936 -		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section II)... ..	3	6
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section II and still in force	Nil	Nil
(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12)	Nil	Nil

(b) Housing Act 1949 :-		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3(1) and 3(2)	Nil	Nil
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :-		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2)....	Nil	Nil

(2) Repairs during the year: No. of Houses

(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts 392

(b) Public Health Acts - action after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied :-

 (i) By owners.... 108

 (ii) By local authority in default of owners 1

(c) Housing Act 1936 - action after service of formal notice (Sections 9,10,11 and 16) Houses made fit :-

 (i) By owners.... 14

 (ii) By local authority in default of owners 2

(d) Housing Repair and Rents Act 1954 :-
 Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and
 Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5) 11

4. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs & Rents Act 1954):-

(1) No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7..	Nil
(2) No. of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	Nil
(3) No. of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	Nil

5. Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants etc.

Action during year:	<u>Private bodies or Individuals.</u>		<u>Local Authority</u>	
	No. of Schemes.	No. of dwell- ing houses or other buildings affected.	No. of Schemes.	No. of dwell- ing houses or other buildings affected.
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	26	26	-	-
(b) Submitted by local authority to Ministry..	-	-	-	-
(c) Finally approved by Ministry	11	11	-	-
(d) Work completed	11	11	-	-
(e) Additional separate dwellings included in (d) above... ..	Nil		-	
(f) Any other action taken under the Act ....	.....		None	

6. Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 - Certificates of Disrepair.

(a) Number of applications received	13
(b) Number of Certificates granted	28
(c) Number of Certificates refused	2
(d) Number of Certificates revoked	9

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY:

Action taken with regard to administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949:

Number of registered distributors operating from :-

(a) Dairies in the district ....	....	....	Nil
(b) Dairy farms in the district .	....	....	8
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies			77
(d) Premises outside the district ....	....	....	8

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949:

Number of Dealers Licences (including Supplementary Licences) issued by the local authority during 1955 in respect of :-

"Tuberculin Tested" Milk			28
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THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949:

Number of licences issued in respect of "Heat Treated" Milk :-

Retail Distributors :-

(a) Pasteurised Milk	....	....	....	34
(b) Sterilised Milk	....	....	....	90

Action taken by the Department in relation to samples taken in the district :-

RAW MILK:

	<u>Number of</u> <u>Samples.</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Negative.</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Positive.</u>
(1) Tuberculosis - Biological Tests	3	3	-
	<u>Number of</u> <u>Samples.</u>	<u>Number</u> <u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Number Unsatisfactory.</u>
(2) Methylene Blue Test	35	29	6

	<u>Number</u> <u>of Samples.</u>	<u>Number sat-</u> <u>isfactory.</u>	<u>Number unsat-</u> <u>isfactory.</u>	<u>No</u> <u>Result.</u>
<u>"HEAT TREATED" MILK:</u>				
(1) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-
<u>"PASTEURISED"</u>				
(2) Phosphatase Test	50	43	4	3
(3) Methylene Blue Test	50	43	4	3
<u>"STERILISED"</u>				
(4) Turbidity Test	5	5	-	-

Result of investigation by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries during the year arising from notifications by the local authority :-

No. of Veterinary inspections	....	....	....	....	Nil
No. of cases where animal seized under Tuberculosis Order 1938.					Nil
No. of animals seized	....	....	....	....	Nil
No. of cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation	....	....	....	....	Nil
No. of cases reported negative, no animals seized ..				....	Nil

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949:

There was one prosecution under Article 26 for failing to ensure that a bottle used for milk was in a state of thorough cleanliness. The offender was convicted and fined £5.

ICE CREAM:

During the year 4 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream. At the end of the year there were 87 premises registered for the sale of ice cream and one for manufacture.

56 samples were submitted for examination with the following results :-

Grade 1	....	....	....	45
Grade 2	....	....	....	6
Grade 3	....	....	....	4
Grade 4	....	....	....	1

LOLLIPOPS:

35 samples were submitted for examination. 33 were satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION.

In addition to the routine inspection of butchers shops the sanitary inspectors inspected all animals slaughtered at the three licensed slaughterhouses within the district.

329 visits to slaughterhouses were made and the number of carcasses inspected is tabulated below :-

CARCASSES INSPECTED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	265	105	24	937	497
Number inspected	265	105	24	937	497
All diseases except Tuberculosis - whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	25	12	-	4	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis	9.4	11.4	4.1	0.43	2.01
Tuberculosis only whole carcasses con- demned	3	1	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	20	-	-	13
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.5	20.0	-	-	2.6
Cysticercosis Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refriger- ation	3	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

CARCASE MEAT, OFFAL, TINNED AND OTHER FOOD
CONDENMED OR SURRENDERED

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Beef	1	13	0	2
Veal			2	26
Pork		1	3	22
Mutton				8
Tinned Meat		3	0	5
Tinned Fruit		8	1	5
Tinned Cream and Milk				11
Tinned Soups				5
Tinned Vegetables.	3	6	1	10
Tinned Fish				21
Tinned Miscellaneous			1	9
Cooking Fat				5
Sausage			1	24
Bacon				4
Boiling Fowls			2	4

All condemned meat was stained with green dye to indicate that it was unfit for human food and sold to an approved processor. All other food is disposed of under supervision on the Council's refuse tip.

FOOD PREMISES.

Shops, hawkers carts and market stalls were inspected regularly by the Sanitary Inspectors and details of inspections, types of business etc., are tabulated as follows :-

	<u>INSPECTIONS</u>			
Bakehouses				33
Butchers				118
Dairies and Milkshops				37
Fishmongers and Poulterers				6
Food Preparing Premises ..				91
Fried Fish Shops				8
Greengrocers and Fruiterers				9
Grocers				66
Ice Cream Premises				84
Market Stalls....				340
Restaurants				25
Sundry Visits ...				79
Sampling - Milk..				84
Ice Cream				77
Water				26
Hawkers Carts....				1

NUMBER OF AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES.

Grocers and Provision Dealers....	....	....	102
Greengrocers	....	....	22
Fishmongers....	....	....	3
Meat and Cooked Meat Shops	....	....	30
Bakers and Confectioners	....	....	29
Fried Fish Shops	....	....	17
Sweet Shops....	....	....	21
Licensed Premises, Clubs, Canteens etc ..	....	....	60
Others	....	....	3

Number of Food Premises, by type, registered under Section 116 of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act 1938.

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Number Registered</u>
Preserved Foods	9
Sale of Ice Cream ...	87
Manufacture of Ice Cream	1

MISCELLANEOUS

PETROLEUM ACT:

32 Licences were issued for the storage of petrol during the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT:

2 Licences to keep pet shops were issued and two inspections of the premises were made.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951:

2 premises are registered for the purpose of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933:

13 Licences were in force for the purpose of slaughtering animals.

SHOPS ACT 1950:

One prosecution for Sunday Trading contrary to Section 47 was instituted. The trader pleaded guilty and was fined 10/-d.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT 1952:

There appears to be complete compliance with the provisions of this Act which requires that all electric fires, gas fires and oil heaters should have guards complying with a prescribed standard. No action was necessary.

LETHAL CHAMBER:

165 dogs and cats were humanely destroyed during the year in chloroform lethal chambers of a type approved by the R.S.P.C.A.

